

GLOSSARY

aa: A Hawaiian term for basaltic lava flows typified by a rough, jagged, spinose, clinkery surface.

Active Grazing Preference: The number of animal unit months (AUMs) of grazing that eligible livestock operators may annually license on public lands. Sometimes referred to as "grazing preference."

Actual Use: The livestock use (in AUMs) made during one grazing season by livestock on the forage of an area. Actual use may differ from active grazing preference due to yearly variations in a livestock operation or forage availability.

Allotment: An area of public land designated and managed for livestock grazing. It consists of one or more pastures and may include private, State, and/or other land ownerships.

Allotment Management Plan (AMP): A documented program which applies to livestock operations on the public lands which is prepared in consultation, cooperation, and coordination with the permittee(s) and others involved. It prescribes the manner in and extent to which livestock operations will be conducted in order to meet the multiple use and sustained yield objectives as determined in the resource management plan.

Animal Unit Month (AUM): A standardized unit of measurement of the amount of forage (800 pounds dry weight) necessary for the complete subsistence of one animal unit (one cow or one horse or five sheep, all over six months old) for one month.

Apparent Trend: See Trend.

Area of Critical Environmental Concern (ACEC): An area established through the planning process as provided in FLPMA where special management attention is required (when such areas are developed or used or where no development is required) to protect and prevent irreparable damage to important historic, cultural, or scenic values; fish and wildlife resources, or other natural systems or processes; or to protect life and safety from natural hazards.

Average Actual Grazing Use: The arithmetic mean (average) of authorized (or licensed) grazing in AUMs over a particular time period.

Bailey-Kuchler System: A classification system that divides the United States into ecosystems based on climate, vegetation, soils, and landform.

Basalt: Any fine-grained, dark-colored, igneous rock.

Brush Control: Reduction of the density or amount of shrubs in an area by burning, spraying, plowing, chaining, discing, or similar means.

Bureau Planning System: A process used in the BLM to establish land use allocations, constraints, and objectives for various categories of public land use.

Burning Index (BI): A number related to the contribution of fire behavior to the effort of containing a fire. The magnitude of the containment job actually increases more than twice as fast at the BI.

Candidate Species: A plant or animal species that is under consideration by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service for listing as either Threatened or Endangered.

Carey Act: Passed in 1894 and subsequently amended, this act allows a person to file a patent application on up to 160 acres (320 acres for a husband and wife) of public land with the intent of developing said land for cultivated agriculture. The applicant must live on the tract as one condition of obtaining patent.

Categorical Review Process: The process of determining whether a proposed action is a categorical exclusion. A categorical exclusion is a category of actions which do not individually or cumulatively have a significant effect on the human environment and for which neither an environmental assessment nor an environmental impact statement is required.

Cherrystem: A dead-end road that protrudes into a WSA. The WSA boundary is formed around this road.

Climax Plant Community: The culminating stage in plant succession for a given site where the vegetation consists of a stable community of adapted native plants.

Closed ORV Designation: Motorized vehicles are prohibited.

Condition:

Ecological Condition - The present state of the vegetation on a range site in relation to the climax (natural potential) plant community for that site.

Seeded Condition - The amount and productivity of seeded species measured in terms of maximizing production of forage for livestock. Considers the amount of reinvading shrub species in the treatment area.

Contiguous: Lands or legal subdivisions having a common boundary; lands having only a common corner are not contiguous.

Coordinated Resource Management Plan: A plan developed to formulate a resource management program that integrates and makes provision for all resource values and uses within the selected geographical area. The plan is coordinated with the Soil Conservation Service, U.S. Forest Service, Idaho Department of Fish and Game, Idaho Department of Lands, BLM, and livestock permittees.

Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ): Established in the Executive Office of the President by NEPA. Among other items, CEQ establishes regulations to tell Federal agencies what they must do to comply with NEPA.

Critical Minerals or Materials: Those materials vital to the national defense, the main source of which is within the continental limits of the United States, which may not be produced in quality and quantity sufficient to meet requirements.

Cultural Resources: Those fragile and nonrenewable remains of human activity occupation, or endeavor, reflected in districts, sites, structures, buildings, objects, artifacts, ruins, works of art, architecture, and natural features, that were of importance in human events. These resources consist of (1) physical remains, (2) areas where significant human events occurred--even though evidence of the event no longer remains, and (3) the environment immediately surrounding the actual resource. Cultural resources, including both prehistoric and historic remains, represent a part of the continuum of events from the earliest evidences of man to the present day.

Desert Land Entry (DLE): Passed in 1877 and subsequently amended, this act allows a State resident to file a patent application on up to 320 acres of public land with the intent of developing said land for cultivated agriculture.

Ecological Condition: See Condition.

Ecological Site: A distinctive kind of rangeland which, in the absence of abnormal disturbance and physical site deterioration, has the potential to support a native plant community typified by an association of species different from that of other sites. This differentiation is based upon significant differences in kind or proportion of species, or total productivity.

Ecosystem: An ecological unit consisting of both living and nonliving components which interact to produce a natural, stable system.

Environmental Assessment (EA): A concise public document prepared to provide sufficient evidence and analysis for determining whether to prepare an environmental impact statement or a finding of no significant impact. It includes a brief discussion of the need for the proposal, alternatives considered, environmental impact of the proposed action and alternatives, and a list of agencies and persons consulted.

Environmental Impact Statement (EIS): A written analysis of the impacts on the environment of a proposed project or action.

Exchange-of-use (EOU): An agreement between the BLM and an applicant having ownership or control of non-Federal land within a grazing allotment. The applicant is allowed to license a designated number of AUMs without payment, provided that during the length of the agreement, the BLM has control and management of the non-Federal land for grazing purposes. Non-Federal lands within an allotment and not covered by an EOU agreement are also managed in conjunction with the Federal lands of the allotment, but no AUM credits are given to the land owner/lessee.

Federal Land Policy and Management Act (FLPMA): Public Law 94-579 signed by the President on October 21, 1976. Establishes public land policy for management of lands administered by the Bureau of Land Management. FLPMA specifies several key directions for the Bureau, notably that: management be on the basis of multiple use and sustained yield; land use plans be prepared to guide management actions; public lands be managed for the protection, development, and enhancement of resources; public lands be retained in Federal ownership; and public participation be utilized in reaching management decisions.

Forage: All browse and herbaceous foods that are available to grazing animals.

Geology, Energy, and Minerals (GEM) Program: BLM-initiated program intended to provide minerals information to be utilized in the wilderness studies.

Grazing Preference: The total number of animal unit months of livestock on public lands apportioned and attached to base property owned or controlled by a permittee. Some of the total grazing preference may have been suspended in past administrative actions. That portion of the grazing preference that is not suspended is the active grazing preference.

Grazing System: Scheduled grazing use and nonuse of an allotment to reach identified goals or objectives by improving the quality and quantity of vegetation.

Habitat: A specific set of physical conditions that surround a species, group of species, or a large community. In wildlife management, the major constituents of habitat are considered to be food, water, cover, and living space.

Habitat Management Plan (HMP): A written and approved activity plan for a geographical area of public lands which identifies wildlife habitat management activities to be implemented in achieving specific objectives of planning decisions.

Impact: The effect, influence, alteration, or imprint caused by an action.

Impair: To diminish in value or excellence.

Inholdings: State or privately-owned lands inside a wilderness study area.

Isolated Tracts: Parcels of public land management jointly with the State of Idaho under authority of the Sikes Act. The Isolated Tracts HMP includes public lands in areas dominated by agriculture where the tracts provide important existing or potential wildlife habitat. Objectives of the HMP are to provide food and cover for all species of wildlife, especially winter and nesting habitat for pheasant.

The term "isolated tracts" has also been used in this document to mean any relatively small parcel of public land isolated from large blocks of public land. Where "Isolated Tracts" is capitalized, it refers to tracts covered by the Isolated Tracts HMP. Where "isolated tracts" is lower case, it refers to any isolated parcel.

Land Treatment: See Vegetation Manipulation.

Leasable Minerals: Those minerals or materials designated as leasable under the Mineral Leasing Act of 1920. They include coal, phosphate, asphalt, sulphur, potassium and sodium minerals, oil, and gas. Geothermal resources are also leasable under the Geothermal Steam Act of 1970.

Lek: An area where males assemble to display communally for the purpose of attracting females for breeding.

Limited ORV Designation: Motorized vehicles are permitted, subject to specified conditions such as seasonal limitations, speed limits, and designated routes of travel as developed during subsequent activity planning.

Livestock Grazing Operations: Those operations under permit where the primary purpose is the grazing of livestock for the production of food and fiber.

Locatable Minerals: Minerals or materials subject to claim and development under the Mining Law of 1872 (as amended). Generally includes metallic minerals such as gold and silver and other materials not subject to lease or sale (some bentonites, limestone, talc, some zeolites, etc.). Whether or not a particular mineral deposit is locatable depends on such factors as quality, quantity, mineability, demand, and marketability.

Management Framework Plan (MFP): A land use plan that establishes land use allocations, multiple use guidelines, and management objectives for a given planning area. The MFP planning system was used by BLM until about 1980.

Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA): A county that contains at least one city of 50,000 inhabitants or more plus as many adjacent counties as are metropolitan in character and are socially integrated with that central city or cities.

Mineral Entry: Claiming public lands (under administration of BLM) under the Mining Law of 1872 for the purpose of exploiting minerals.

Mineral in Character: Land with conditions indicating that mineable mineral deposits are present.

Mineral Materials: See Saleable Minerals.

Mining Law of 1872: Also referred to as the "General Mining Laws" or "Mining Laws." It provides for claiming and gaining title to locatable minerals on public lands.

Monitoring: In reference to a RMP, monitoring is a process of examining the results of implementation of the RMP to determine if the plan objectives are being accomplished.

In reference to rangeland monitoring, monitoring is a process of examining the results of rangeland management, including trend, utilization, and condition, to determine if management is satisfactory or if a proposed change in management would be acceptable.

Motor Vehicle: Any self-propelled conveyance.

MRV: Multiple Resource Values.

Multiple Use: Management of the various surface and subsurface resources, so that they are utilized in the combination of ways that will best meet the present and future needs of the public, without permanent impairment of the productivity of the land or the quality of the environment.

Multiple Use Areas: Lands to be retained in public ownership and managed by the Bureau of Land Management.

National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA): Public Law 91-190. Establishes environmental policy for the Nation. Among other items, NEPA requires Federal agencies to consider environmental values in decision-making processes.

National Register of Historic Places (National Register): A listing of architectural, historical, archaeological, and cultural sites of local, State, or national significance, established by the Historic Preservation Act of 1966, and maintained by the National Park Service. Sites are nominated to the Register by State or Federal agencies. Copies of the National Register are available from the Superintendent of Documents, USGPO, Washington, D.C. 20402.

Naturalness: Refers to an area which "generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature, with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable." (From Section 2(c), Wilderness Act)

Natural Potential Plant Community: See Climax Plant Community.

Normal Fire Year Plan: The District fire program plan that sets the limits on personnel, aircraft, ground tankers, and warehouse levels as well as the funding level for presuppression during the activation period (April 1 through October 31).

Noxious Weed: Any plant which has been determined to be injurious to public health, crops, livestock, land, or other property.

Observed Apparent Trend: See Trend.

Off-Road Vehicle (ORV): Any motorized vehicle designed to or capable of cross-country travel on or immediately over land, water, or snow.

Open ORV Designation: Motorized vehicles may travel anywhere.

Outstanding: Standing out among others of its kind; conspicuous; prominent; or, superior to others of its kind; distinguished; excellent.

Pahoehoe: A Hawaiian term for basaltic lava flows typified by smooth, billowy, or ropy surface. Varieties include corded, elephant-hide, entrail, festooned, filamented, sharkskin, shelly, and slab pahoehoe.

Permittees: Livestock operators who have grazing preference on public lands.

Photo Trend: See Trend.

Physiographic Province: An extensive portion of the landscape, normally encompassing many hundred square miles, which portrays similar qualities of soil, rock, shape, and vegetation of the same geomorphic origin.

Planning Area: The area for which land use plans are prepared and maintained.

Planning Criteria: The factors used to guide development of the land use plan, or revision, to ensure that it is tailored to the issues previously identified and to ensure that unnecessary data collection and analyses are avoided.

Plant Succession: The process by which one plant community replaces another over a period of time, developing toward the climax plant community.

Playa Lakes: Small lakes that form in shallow desert basins after rain or snowmelt and then evaporate.

Population Center: A MSA (see definition for Metropolitan Statistical Area) with a population of 100,000 or more.

Potential Natural Vegetation: As defined by Kuchler, the vegetation that would exist today if man were removed from the scene and if the plant succession after his removal was telescoped into a single moment. The time compression eliminates the effects of future climatic fluctuations. This concept is a component of the Bailey-Kuchler system used in the wilderness study process.

Potential Plant Community: See Climax Plant Community.

Preference: See Active Grazing Preference.

Prehistoric Resources: All evidences of human activity that pre-date recorded history and can be used to reconstruct lifeways and culture history of past peoples. These include sites, artifacts, and the contexts in which they occur.

Prescribed Burning: Application of fire to natural fuels under conditions of weather, fuel moisture, soil moisture, and other conditions intended to produce the intensity of heat and rate of spread required to accomplish certain objectives of wildlife management, grazing, and/or hazard reduction.

Primitive and Unconfined Recreation: Nonmotorized and nondeveloped types of outdoor recreational activities.

Proper Use Factor (Use Factor): An index to the grazing use that is made of forage species, based on a system of range management that will maintain the economically important forage species.

Public Land: Historically, the public domain administered by BLM for the purpose of providing forage, wood products, and minerals for public users. Additional uses of these public lands have been developed and are now recognized including wildlife habitat, wilderness, watershed protection, open space, recreation opportunities, protection of cultural resources, and other purposes.

Range Condition: See Condition.

Range Improvements: Any facility or land treatment that directly affects or supports the use of forage by domestic livestock, such as fences, water lines, stock tanks, reservoirs, spring developments, prescribed burns, and seedings.

Range Site: A distinctive kind of rangeland with the ability to produce a characteristic natural plant community. It is capable of supporting a native plant community typified by an association of species that differs from other range sites in the kind or proportion of species or in total production.

RARE II: The second Roadless Area Review and Evaluation used by the U.S. Forest Service to determine wilderness suitability of National Forest Lands.

Recreation and Public Purposes Act (R&PP): Passed in 1926 and subsequently amended, this act allows lease or sale of public lands for development for recreational, educational, medical, and public purpose facilities.

Recreation Management Area (RMA): An area where dispersed recreation occurs and where visitors have the freedom of recreational choice with minimal regulatory constraint.

Recreation Opportunity: The opportunity to participate in an intrinsically rewarding experience that finds its source in voluntary engagements (mental and/or physical) during nonobligated time.

Recreation Opportunity Spectrum (ROS): A framework for stratifying and defining classes of outdoor recreation opportunity environments along a continuum.

Relict Vegetation Community: An assemblage of plants that is representative of plant communities that have been substantially altered by disturbances such as fire, grazing, cultivation, etc. These plant communities were once much more widespread than at present.

Resource Area: A geographic portion of a BLM District that is the smallest administrative subdivision in the Bureau.

Resource Management Plan (RMP): A land use plan that establishes land use allocations, multiple use guidelines, and management objectives for a given planning area. The RMP planning system has been used by BLM since about 1980.

Riparian Communities: Vegetative communities found in association with either open water or water close to the surface; includes meadows, aspen groves, and other trees and shrubs in association with streams and other water sources.

Roads: Vehicle routes which have been improved and maintained by mechanical means to ensure relatively regular and continuous use.

Saleable Minerals: A group of mineral materials including, but not limited to, petrified wood and common varieties of sand, stone, gravel, pumice, cinders, and clay on public lands. These minerals may be disposed of through a contract of sale or a free use permit authorized by the Materials Act of 1947 as amended by PL-167 and PL-87-713. Also referred to as mineral materials.

Scoping Process: An early and open public participation process for determining the scope of issues to be addressed and for identifying the significant issues related to a proposed action.

SCORP: (Idaho) Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan.

Sensitive Species: Species whose populations or ranges are so limited that any reductions in numbers, habitat availability, or habitat condition could result in their being placed on the endangered list.

Site (Archaeological): A physical location where primitive and historic human activities or events occurred and evidence remains that can be used to document human history.

Solitude: The state of being alone or remote from habitations; isolation. A lonely, unfrequented, or secluded place.

Special Recreation Management Area (SRMA): An administratively or Congressionally recognized area that possesses outstanding recreation resources or where recreation use causes significant user conflicts, visitor safety problems, or resource damage.

Speleothem: A secondary mineral that forms in caves. Most speleothems are composed of carbonate minerals, but other speleothems may be composed of sulfate, halide, hydroxide, nitrate, oxide, phosphate, or silicate minerals. Better known types of speleothems are stalactites, stalagmites, columns, helictites, flowstone, draperies, and cave flowers.

Spelunking: The activity or hobby of exploring caves.

Substantially Unnoticeable: Refers to something that either is so insignificant as to be only a very minor feature of the overall area or is not distinctly recognizable by the average visitor as being manmade or man-caused because of age, weathering, or biological change.

Succession: See Plant Succession.

Suitability: As used in the Wilderness Act and in the Federal Land Policy and Management Act, refers to a recommendation by the Secretary of Interior or the Secretary of Agriculture that certain Federal lands satisfy the definition of wilderness in the Wilderness Act and have been found appropriate for designation as wilderness on the basis of an analysis of the existing and potential uses of the land.

Supplemental Values: Resources associated with wilderness which contribute to the quality of wilderness areas.

Threatened or Endangered Species: Endangered species are any species which are in danger of extinction throughout all or a significant portion of its range. Threatened species are any species likely to become an endangered species within the foreseeable future throughout all or a significant portion of its range. A species is classified as either threatened or endangered by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

Trend: The direction of change in ecological condition, usually measured in terms of upward, downward, and static.

Apparent Trend - A one-time observation of a representative area of a vegetation type which considers plant vigor, seedlings, surface litter, and soil movement, and which compares the vegetative composition of the natural potential (climax community) of the area.

Photo Trend - A method employing periodic measurements and photographs of vegetation within a selected plot of land to assess range trend on a long-term basis.

Trespass: Any unauthorized use of public land.

Occupancy - Normally, the construction of improvements or placement of materials on public lands.

Agricultural - Normally, the preparation of public land for farming. Includes, but is not limited to, clearing, breaking ground, seeding, cultivating, irrigating, grazing, and harvesting crops.

Uncommon Species: Species that are not endangered or sensitive but are not widespread in the State of Idaho.

UPRR: Union Pacific Railroad.

Utilization: The proportion of current year's forage production that was consumed or destroyed by grazing animals, usually expressed as a percentage.

Value-at-Risk: A rating system used to prioritize the dispatching of suppression crews in a multiple fire situation. Value-at-risk is established by evaluating each resource separately to determine either beneficial or detrimental effects fire has on that resource. A numerical rating is given each resource, plus being detrimental and minus beneficial. After each resource has been evaluated individually, the totals are summarized to establish the values.

Vegetation Type: A classification of the present plant community on a site based on the dominant plant species in the community.

Vegetative Manipulation: Actions taken that alter the existing plant communities to achieve the specific management goals in a particular area.

Visitor Use Day (VUD): An administrative measure of a calendar day or portion thereof spent participating in a specific recreation activity by an individual.

Way: A vehicle route established and maintained solely by the passage of motor vehicles.

Wilderness Area: An area formally designated by Act of Congress as part of the National Wilderness Preservation System.

Wilderness Characteristics: Identified by Congress in the 1964 Wilderness Act; namely size, naturalness, outstanding opportunities for solitude or a primitive and unconfined type of recreation, and supplemental values such a geological, archaeological, historical, ecological, scenic, or other features. A wilderness area must possess at least 5,000 acres or more of contiguous public land; be substantially natural or generally appear to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man being substantially unnoticeable; and have either outstanding opportunities for solitude or a primitive and unconfined type of recreation. Congress said a wilderness area may have supplemental values, which include ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic, or historical value.

Wilderness Inventory: An evaluation of the public lands in the form of a written description and map showing those lands that meet the wilderness criteria as established under Section 603(a) of FLPMA and Section 2(c) of the Wilderness Act, which are referred to as Wilderness Study Areas (WSAs).

Wilderness Management Policy: The BLM's policy that prescribes the general objectives and specific activity guidance applicable to all designated BLM wilderness areas.

Wilderness Recommendation: A recommendation by the Bureau of Land Management, the Secretary of Interior, or the President, with respect to an area's suitability or unsuitability for preservation as wilderness.

Wilderness Review: The entire process of wilderness inventory, study, and reporting phases of the wilderness program of the Bureau of Land Management.

Wilderness Values: The amenities and benefits connected with areas having large size, naturalness, and outstanding opportunities for solitude or primitive recreation.

WSA: Wilderness Study Area. A parcel of public land that through the BLM's wilderness inventory process has been found to possess the basic wilderness characteristics of being at least 5,000 acres in size, being primarily natural, and having outstanding opportunities for solitude or primitive and unconfined types of recreation.

Xeric: Pertaining to, or adapted to, a dry environment.

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